WELFARE STATE – HISTORICAL AND THEORETICAL BASIS

The diploma work dissertates about development of concept known as welfare state throughout the history until its formulation after the Second World War and touches several things around this theme.

The first chapter contains an introduction to structure of following chapters and explanation of why the approach I have chosen is mostly research of historical conditions of the development of social security, which has led into the birth of the welfare state itself. The reason why the accent is on historical basis of welfare state rather than on theoretical bases is because I believe that they played only side role in the process of forming. They participated on the development, but they weren’t the moving force of it.

The second chapter mentions some of the definitions of welfare state by chosen authors and short thought on this theme by me, along with a brief delimitation of typologies of welfare state, as they were created by Gosta Esping-Andersen and Richard Titmuss.

In the third chapter I use an example of the old Rome to show some similarities with later development and problems of governing the welfare state. This part of work mostly turns around the time of rule of Gaius and Tiberius Gracchus and social reforms they have conducted.

The chapters four and five are the key chapters, in which the historical development of social security in Britain and Germany is described. Both of them are closed by brief summaries of what can be learned from this development.

The final chapter consists of summary of the historical development in Great Britain and Germany, crisis of welfare state and of contemporary development trends. The historical development, by my opinion, told us, how important is the role of traditionally rooted principles for forming of future social security. It also told us, that the most important impulse for expansion of social legislation was industrial revolution and effects it brought for the society, such as demographic changes, concentration of people in the cities and invasion of previous social bindings.

Klíčová slova: Sociální, stát.  Keywords: Welfare, state.